

**Burien Business and Economic Development Partnership
(BEDP)**

Friday, July 25, 2008
7:00–8:30 a.m.

**Burien Interim City Hall, Shared Conference Room
15811 Ambaum Blvd. SW**

Members Present: Harvey Aulgur, Nancy Damon, David Elliott, Bob Ewing, Kevin Fitz, Michael Goldsmith, Jim Hughes

Excused Absentees: Mary Averett, Rick Cosgrave, Geri Fain, Karen Lautermilch, Mark Minium, Doug Moreland, Jane Voget

Staff: Dick Loman, Economic Development Manager, Janet Stallman, Department Assistant

Guests: Councilmember Rose Clark; Patty Sader, Executive Director, Discover Burien

Call to Order: Meeting opened at 7:00 a.m. by Michael Goldsmith, Chair

Minutes from June 27, 2008, were approved as written.

Chair's Report–Michael Goldsmith

Michael reported that the Partnership wants to acknowledge the hard work of many in the Burien community that helped support the victims of the apartment fire. While the names are probably too long to list, this grass-roots support in times of crisis is truly what “community” means.

Future Agendas–Michael Goldsmith

Michael mentioned that he wanted to keep track of the work plan items that Council had suggested the BEDP consider this year.

He mentioned three items: the review of the Economic Development Element of the Burien Comprehensive Plan, working in conjunction with the Arts Commission to develop a joint aesthetic plan for Burien, and how to include sustainability in the economic development policy.

Dick Loman mentioned that Scott Greenberg would be coming to our next meeting to discuss the review of the Economic Development Element of the Comprehensive plan. He hopes to work with this group over the next several weeks to get their input to pass on to the Planning Commission, which will be making final recommendations to Council.

Brief Recap on Art Summit. Dick mentioned that his take from the Art Summit is that the arts community is looking for help from the city. They are especially looking for facilities that they can afford to rent. There was an idea tossed out of an “arts campus” in downtown. (A location where there could be a small theatre and an art gallery and the supporting structures that they need – a place to build sets, store them, etc.) Mayor McGilton is interested in having the Partnership work more closely with the arts community. The cost of using the PAC is extremely high – too much for a lot of our performing groups. There is a group of non-profits working together to come up with a program to share space and pay rent, etc. Burien currently has no

policy or goal in the economic element of the Comprehensive Plan regarding encouraging the arts.

Some in the group believe that the arts are an important part of economic development. It builds a vibrant community, helps hold up real estate values, and brings in money from outside of the community. Dick promised to include the “Arts Forum” written summary in the next BEDP packet. The formation of an Arts sub-committee is planned.

Sustainability.

Michael mentioned that one thing he is personally interested in is the idea of having “green collar” jobs in our area. There was discussion that the car dealers in our area are such a huge part of our tax base, and that we need to diversify more to take some of the pressure off of them.

Michael wondered about having some kind of certified mechanic school in the area for maintaining green cars and/or other cars. He also wondered about having a “green car” dealership in the area. Nancy Damon mentioned that there is one in Tukwila.

There was a discussion about what “sustainability” means and how the term is so large it needs to be narrowed for our discussion. It was mentioned that the Planning Commission is still working on narrowing a definition to bring to Council for their consideration. Councilmember Clark mentioned a report that Council had been given regarding sustainability that had been prepared by an intern. That report will be made available to the sustainability sub-committee. This is another item that should be considered during review of the Economic Development element of the Comprehensive Plan, and there should possibly be a policy or goals identified. Bob Ewing offered to head a working sub-committee to review the Economic Development Element.

Michael inquired about recycling and ECOSS. Dick mentioned that ECOSS is scheduled to come to BEDP’s 2nd meeting in August. Waste Management is scheduled to come give a presentation to the BEDP on August 8th at Mike Martin’s request. Dan Rosenfeld has lots of experience with green building. Urban Partners developed a green building in Anaheim for the government.

Bob Ewing feels building heights in the downtown need to be addressed again -- looking at heights for future development. He wants to keep it looking small town, without sacrificing development and feels it can be done in a way that satisfies the need for sustainability, green building, having a walkable downtown, etc. He believes we could be creative in a thoughtful way. Nancy Damon mentioned that the FARs (Floor Area Ratios) allows for more density if you put more pedestrian friendly things at street level (park benches, parks, etc.)

Dick, in answer to a question, reported that Town Square leasing is slow due to the general state of economy, but when the new street grid goes in and the park is built, sales and retail leasing are expected to pick up.

Discussion on ‘Main Street’ --- Dick Loman

This is being put “back on the shelf” due to lack of positive support.

Finalize discussion on Traffic Impact Fees--Michael Goldsmith

The group did not reach consensus on Traffic Impact Fees (TIFs). Those against TIFs believe the timing is not right to impose these fees. Those who were for TIFs thought they would help

improve infrastructure, that most local cities have them already, and that they were modest in comparison to other municipalities.

Discover Burien Report–Patty Sader, Executive Director

Patty mentioned that on September 6th – “Arts Aglow” which is the Fall Art Walk will occur from 11 a.m.- 6 p.m. Artists will have their work on display in businesses between 2nd Ave SW and 10th Ave. SW on 152nd Street. This year Discover Burien is partnering with Burien Parks & Recreation, and there will also be street entertainment. Between 6 – 9 PM, local restaurants and bars will have live music for the evening.

Next Wednesday, July 30th, is the next Discover Burien networking event. This one is at EB Foote Winery from 6PM – 8PM. Food will be provided at the event. There will be wine tasting, and wine will be sold by the glass.

Patty mentioned what a sense of pride she felt being a part of this community and how it responded to the Apartment Fire. At the fundraiser that was held at Mick Kelly’s all of the fire victims that attended mentioned the sense of caring they received from this community.

Economic Manager Report–Dick Loman

Dick announced that the Graffiti Ordinance had been passed by Council and that it is in the process of becoming law. He also mentioned a new Pilot program where the City would have a contractor take care of graffiti for businesses that sign a waiver allowing a contractor to come on their property to do so.

The Transit Center should be under construction within the next few days. The County is trying to rent additional parking spaces. Construction will displace about 100 spaces at the existing Park & Ride.

Dick Loman & Steve Clark met w/King County & Metro and will be making a recommendation to Council in terms of the Transit Oriented Development. Negotiation of the Development Agreement with the firm awarded the contract will come next. There are a lot of moving parts and contingencies that will be a part of this. A significant amount of public funding will be involved to create the affordable housing and structured parking element of this project.

The Wellness Cluster Group has been working hard. One exciting thing we’re doing is producing a video meant to help recruit talent to Burien both in the medical field and in education.

Round the Table

Bob Ewing – Thanks for the consideration while I’ve been out; Bob complimented Highline Medical Center as a quality operation.

Kevin Fitz–Mark Storer was killed in a float plane accident; Owned Burien Towing & Airport Towing; he was a good person who did a lot for the community and will be missed.

Dick Loman – I’d like to welcome Bob back.

Jim Hughes – I’d like to welcome Bob back, too.

Next Meeting August 8, 2008, 7:00 a.m.–INTERIM CITY HALL